

Message Text

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14

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 MC-02 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 EUR-12 /068 W

----- 123124

R 151307Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6247

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

USINT BAGHDAD

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY DOHA

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

SECDEF WASHDC

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

UNCLAS KUWAIT 4429

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: MASS, KU

SUBJ: KUWAITI ARMS PURCHASES: CHIEF OF STAFF PRESS

INTERVIEW

1. KUWAITI DAILY AL ANBA OF SEPT 15 CARRIES LENGTHY

INTERVIEW WITH KUWAIT

ARMED FORCES CHIEF OF STAFF, GENERAL MUBARAK, IN WHICH

HE ACKNOWLEDGED THAT UNSPECIFIED SOVIET ARMS DEAL "IS

STILL ON" AND THAT "NOTHING NEW HAS HAPPENED." IN

RESPONSE TO JOURNALIST'S QUESTION ON STATUS OF ARMS

PURCHASES FROM FRANCE, MUBARAK REPORTEDLY REFERRED TO

KUWAITI PURCHASES IN GENERAL AND SAID THAT THERE ARE

"NO OBSTACLES" TO MAKING DESIRED PURCHASES, BUT THERE

ARE OFTEN "DIFFERENCES OF VIEWPOINTS ON SPARE PARTS,

TRAINING AND OTHER MATTERS, WHICH USUALLY ARE OVERCOME

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BY NEGOTIATION." ACKNOWLEDGING INTENDED PURCHASE OF

APC'S FROM US, HE ADDED THAT, IN GOK VIEW, US, USSR, AND
EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ARE ALL POTENTIAL SOURCES FOR ARMS
SINCE NO SINGLE SOURCE HAS MONOPOLY ON TYPES OF ARMAMENTS
KUWAIT WANTS. "WE CHOOSE THE BEST" AND "EACH WEAPON
HAS ITS CHARACTERISTICS AND WE SELECT WHAT SUITS US."
MAESTRONE

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NNN

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